



*Office of the United States Attorney
District of Arizona*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Public Affairs
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EAST VALLEY MAN ARRESTED AND CHARGED WITH ROBBING TWO BANKS WITH HOAX BOMBS IN GILBERT

PHOENIX - Donald Ray Ludington, 48, of Gilbert, Ariz., was arrested without incident today by the FBI and the Gilbert Police Department, and was charged with two counts of Armed Bank Robbery. The complaint alleges that Ludington robbed a credit union and a bank in October 2009. Ludington made his initial appearance this afternoon in federal court and is being detained pending a detention hearing set for November 10, 2009.

The complaint alleges that on October 7, 2009, Ludington robbed the Tempe Schools Credit Union in Gilbert, Ariz. He is also charged with robbing a Bank of America branch in Gilbert on October 22, 2009. In both cases, Ludington allegedly gave the teller a note and threatened them with what appeared to be a bomb. In the first robbery, the complaint also alleges that he was in possession of a gun.

A conviction for Armed Bank Robbery carries a maximum penalty of 25 years in prison, a \$250,000 fine, or both. In determining an actual sentence, the assigned judge will consult the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, which provide appropriate sentencing ranges. The judge, however, is not bound by those guidelines in determining a sentence.

A criminal complaint is simply the method by which a person is charged with criminal activity and raises no inference of guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until competent evidence is presented to a jury that establishes guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Gilbert and Mesa Police Departments. The prosecution is being handled by Jennifer E. Green, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

CASE NUMBER: To be assigned
RELEASE NUMBER: 2009-349(Ludington)

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